

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims as shown below in the List of Claims.

OK to Enter
AK
10/16/2007

List of Claims

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A process for the production of an L-amino acid chosen from the group consisting of L-threonine, L-isoleucine, L-valine, L-methionine, L-homoserine and L-lysine comprising:

- a) fermenting a bacterium comprising an overexpressed endogenous DNA sequence encoding the galactose-proton symporter protein in said bacterium, in a fermentation medium under conditions suitable for the production of said L-amino acid, wherein:
 - i) said bacterium is of the an Enterobacteriaceae family;
 - ii) said galactose-proton symporter protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 and is encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3;
 - iii) said L-amino acid is produced from glucose, saccharose, lactose, fructose, molasses, starch, cellulose or from glycerine and ethanol;
 - iv) said overexpression is achieved by increasing the copy number of said DNA or by operably linking said DNA to a promoter; and
- b) allowing said L-amino acid to become enriched in said bacteria or said fermentation medium.

14. (Previously presented) The process of claim 13, wherein said galactose-proton symporter protein consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

15. (Currently amended) The process of claim 14, wherein said DNA sequence encoding the galactose-proton symporter protein ~~comprises~~ consists of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

10/19/07